(b) what is the number of cases in which the Cantonment Boards and the GOC-in-Chief Directorate of Defence Estates, Lucknow are the petitioner;

(c) what is the number of cases decided against the Cantonment Boards during the last three years, stating the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the total amount of expenditure incurred in each of the court cases; including payments to the Counsels, during the years 1986 and 1987, till date; and

(e) whether Government propose to hold any inquiry into such infructuous expenditure and wastage of public funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Seminar in Biotechnology

3075. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar was held recently to create an awareness amoungst financial institutions about the potential of bio-technology for rural development;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to use bio-technology for setting up of units to manufacture a number of products in States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) A seminar was organised by the Union Bank of India on July 28, 1987. The seminar was not particularly addressed to bio-technology for rural development. The objective of the seminar was to create an awareness among banks and financing institutions about the potential of promoting bio-technology based industries. Representatives from the financing institutions, industries, research organisations and concerned Government Departments participated in the seminar.

(c) The steps taken include the following:

(i) Development of infrastructure facilities for R&D and information network as break-up support for industrial growth in biotechnology;

(ii) Training of Personnel;

(iii) Organisation of seminars/workshops to provide linkage between the industry and the R&D institutions;

(iv) Organisation of meetings for interaction between the representatives of industries in India and abroad; and

(v) Venture capital to provide catalytic support for setting up of biotechnology based industrial units.

Complaints against Director, Defence Estates and Cantonment Eexecutive Officers, Lucknow

3076. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of complaints received by Government against the present Director, Defence Estates Central Command, Lucknow and the Cantonment Executive Officer Lucknow, respectively, from September 1983 to July, 1986;